

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1761 - HB 2043

February 27, 2016

SUMMARY OF BILL: Deletes Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-15-402(c) which provides an exception to prosecution for aggravated child abuse, aggravated child neglect, and aggravated child endangerment, if the alleged abuse, neglect, or endangerment results from the child being provided treatment by spiritual means through prayer alone, in accordance with the tenets or practices of a recognized church or religious denomination by a duly accredited practitioner of the recognized church or religious denomination, in lieu of medical or surgical care.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- It is assumed that deleting the exception to prosecution will not significantly impact state incarceration costs or the caseloads of the courts, district attorneys, and public defenders.
- The Department of Correction, Administrative Office of the Courts, and the District Attorneys General Conference confirm that the bill will not significantly impact their operations.
- It is assumed this will not impact the number of children receiving services through the Department of Children's Services.
- It is assumed that there will not be an appreciable increase in children receiving medical or surgical treatment as a result of the bill. It is assumed that the bill will not significantly impact the Bureau of TennCare's (TennCare) operations.
- TennCare confirms that the bill will not significantly impact its operations.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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